THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P V RANGAYYA NAIDU) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The request for including towns like Bhiwandi, Kalyan and Ulhasnagar under one local area of Bombay Telephone was examined in the light of the existing guidelines regarding demarcation of local areas Exchanges falling within the Municipal limits fo one Municipality are generally within the local area of a system However there are certain exceptions due to technical and historic reasons

The local area of Bhiwandi is under the jurisdiction of Bhiwandi municipality whereas Ulhasnagar comes under Kalyan Telephone System These areas are, therefor,e under different local areas and as such could not be given local call facilities They are covered under short distance charging areas

(c) In view of existing policy and technical and financial constraints it is not possible to extend the local area of Bombay telephone system so as to include Bhiwandi, Kalyan/Ulhasnagar/New Bombay

[*Translation*]

Theft of Electricity in Delhi

1941 DR P R GANGWAR
SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI

Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn regarding theft of electricity in Delhi,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the steps being taken to prevent it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) (a) to (c) Theft of energy is a cognizable offence under the Indian Electricity Act, 1910 DESU being aware of the problem has intesified its drive against the theft of power and other violations of use of electricity During the period April-December, 1991, 36957 cases were checked and 22783 cases of theft of power were detocted 541 FIRs were loadged with the police for prosecution during this period

[*English*]

Anti-Sea Erosion Plan in Karnataka

1942 SHRI H D DEVEGOWDA Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka have submitted any master plan for anti-sea erosion works for clearance by Central Water Commission,

(b) if so, the estimated amount of the plan, and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) (a) and (b) The Master Plan on Coastal erosion in Karnataka estimated to cost Rs 145 crores and an outline project report on the priority works to protect the more severely affected coastal reaches against erosion estimated to cost Rs 40 crores were presented and discussed in the 17th meeting of the Beach Erosion Board held at Mangalore in June, 1989 Subsequently, the State Govt submitted another project proposal estimated to cost Rs 15 crores in Jun, 1991 This has been examinec and the state has, interalia, been advised tc

prepare detailed project report for individual schemes and have them cleared through the State Technical Advisory Committee/Flood Control Board and then processed through the Central Water Commission/Planning Commission as per the procedure laid down.

(c) The clearance of project depends on how soon the State Government prepares the project report acceptable to the Central Water Commission.

[*Translation*]

Royalty on Minerals

1943. SHRI YOGANAND SARASWATI:
SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rates of royalty on main minerals are reviewed by the Government once in three years;

(b) whether the rates of royalty have not been reviewed since 1987;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the royalty rates are likely to be reviewed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) As per section 9 of the Mines & Minerals (Regulation & Development) Act, 1957, the Central Government may be notification in the official Gazette, amend the Second Schedule so as to enhance or reduce the rate at which royalty shall be payable in respect of any mineral with effect from such date as may be specified in the Notification. However the enhancement of the rate of royalty in respect of any mineral more than once during any period of three years is not permissible under the said Act.

(b) to (d). The Central Government has revised the rates of royalty on minerals other than coal, lignite, sand for stowing and minor minerals with effect from the 17th Feb., 92 in respect of all States and Union Territories except the State of Assam and West Bengal. Earlier with effect from 1st August, 1991, the rates of royalty on coal and lignite was revised by the Central Government in respect of all States and Union Territories except West Bengal and Assam.

[*English*]

Development of Tourism in Kerala

1944. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala Government has submitted a multi-crore proposal for the development to tourism in the State:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Expansion of Telephone system in U.P.

1945. SHRI VINAY KATIYAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the scheme for the expansion of telephone system in Faizabad and the type of modern equipment used therein;